



## NEWS RELEASE

### **FCM's Green Municipal Fund promotes municipal energy efficiency by supporting the City of Pitt Meadows's construction of the South Bonson Community Centre**

**July 14, 2010, Pitt Meadows, B.C.** – Bob Long, councillor, Township of Langley, B.C. and member of the National Board of Directors of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and the Honourable Stockwell Day, President of the Treasury Board of Canada and Minister for the Asia-Pacific Gateway, today announced Green Municipal Fund (GMF) funding totalling \$3,325,925 for the City of Pitt Meadows. The city is using \$302,357 in grant funding and \$3,023,568 in low interest loan funding to construct the South Bonson Community Centre (SBCC), a high efficiency energy consumption building that is the first municipal facility in Pitt Meadows to be certified under the internationally-recognized Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED®) certification system.

“FCM's Green Municipal Fund offers a range of resources and services that specifically address the sustainable community development needs of municipal governments,” said Long. “The financing and knowledge provided by the Fund supports the development of communities that are more environmentally, socially and economically sustainable.”

“The Government of Canada is assisting municipalities across the country in achieving their goal of a cleaner and healthier environment for Canadians through the Green Municipal Fund,” said Minister Day. “Today's announcement is another example of how the government — in partnership with the FCM — is helping Pitt Meadows build a greener future for its citizens.”

Currently under construction in the heart of the South Bonson Waterfront Village on a former mill site, the SBCC will obtain its LEED certification based on a design featuring a 55.8 per cent reduction in energy consumption over the Model National Energy Code for Buildings standard. Key SBCC design components offer efficient use of energy, water, and materials; promotion of indoor air quality; stormwater management; prevention of light pollution; and facilitation of alternative transportation.

When completed, the SBCC will be fully accessible and its adaptable spaces will permit a variety of uses, ensuring inclusivity for users of all ages and abilities. The goal is to increase opportunities for a healthy, active and engaged citizenry; establish partnerships with the Katzie First Nation; integrate local heritage and First Nations culture in building design; and contribute to the vibrancy and safety of the Waterfront Village neighbourhood.

The public engagement and consultation with the Katzie First Nation, with community groups and organizations, and with the general public that preceded SBCC building design are models that could be adopted by other municipalities for their own capital construction projects — particularly community centres. The building itself will incorporate educational signage and interactive displays of the various energy savings components to enhance public awareness of energy issues.

“The City of Pitt Meadows appreciates the support of the Green Municipal Fund for the construction of the SBCC,” said Mayor Don MacLean. “This is a building that the whole

community can be proud of and it certainly demonstrates our commitment to keep our city green while meeting the recreational and cultural needs of our residents. In addition, the SBCC has set an important new environmental design standard for capital projects, given its close alignment with the visions and goals of the city's Official Community Plan and Corporate and Community Sustainability Plan. These socio-economic and environmental benefits of the SBCC help to make Pitt Meadows an even better place to live, work and play."

The Government of Canada endowed the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) with \$550 million to establish the Green Municipal Fund™. The Fund supports partnerships and leveraging of both public and private sector funding to reach higher standards of air, water and soil quality, and climate protection.

*FCM has been the national voice of municipal governments since 1901. It fosters sustainable communities enjoying a high quality of life by promoting strong, effective, and accountable municipal government.*

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